

I understand the State of Connecticut is in a horrible economic time. However, zeroing out the support to The State Library, and to the public libraries isn't the way to attach the issues.

The public libraries have stepped up to help the Citizens of Connecticut job hunt, work on resumes, help with fledging new businesses, work with legal issue of our citizens, and hold story hours for the kids. The public library has features that make it different from any other institution – in the true democratic sense of word – it is free to the citizens (The Rotarian. *In praise of libraries*, March 2015). It is a known fact that not all Connecticut residents have their own computer. Many use the computers at the public or the academic libraries.

By cutting funding and then eliminating the CT State Statutes that support the public library system (Sec. 11-1a; Sec. 11-1; Sec 11-24c) you will create a large divide of the *haves and the have-nots*. Libraries are not the problem. Libraries are part of the solution.

Sincerely,

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“If information is the currency of democracy, then libraries are its banks.” Senator Wendell Forbes, 1988 American Library Association Annual Conference.